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TELEPHONE (312) 258-5500

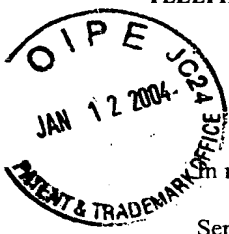
SCHIFF HARDIN LLP

PATENT DEPARTMENT

6600 SEARS TOWER

233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606



In re application of: Bruce A. Sieber

CONFIRMATION NO.: 2636

Serial No.: 09/864,990

GROUP ART UNIT: 2828

Filed: May 24, 2001

EXAMINER: Tuan M. Nguyen

For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 7, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	26*	MINUS	**23	X 3	() X 9.00 (X) X 18.00	\$54.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 3	MINUS	3	X	() X 42.00 () X 84.00	\$
Application amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for.				() YES () NO	() \$135.00 () \$270.00 ONE TIME	\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$54.00	

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20 write "20" in this space.

☐ Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated _____ for _____ month so that the period for response is extended to _____. A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account No. 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ A check in the amount of \$ 54.00 is attached.

☐ A check for \$ _____ accompanying IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is attached

☐ A check for \$ _____ and Petition for Consideration of IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(d) is attached.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

When phoning re this application, please call (312) 258-5774.

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP (Customer Number: 000128)

Patent Department

BY Melvin A. Robinson (31,870)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 7, 2004.

Melvin A. Robinson

NAME OF APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY

SIGNATURE

January 7, 2004

DATE



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: B. A. Seiber)

Serial No.: 09/864,990)

For: **ARRANGEMENTS FOR
INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE
IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES**)


Filed: May 24, 2001)

Group Art Unit: 2828)

Examiner: T. Nguyen)

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January 7, 2004


Melvin A. Robinson
Reg. No. 31,870
Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 7, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-26 are now in the application. Claims
1, 2, 8, 9, and 15 are rejected. Claims 3-7, 10-14, and
16-23 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected
claim but are otherwise considered to be allowable.
Claims 24-26 are new.

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